
Integration Partner Integration Support & Transition Achievement Report (Deliverable 153.1.1e) April 2004

Executive Summary

Integration Partner supports FSA's leadership and the actions required to drive the development of integration projects and initiatives. This report summarizes Integration Partner's activities for the month of April that support the development of integration projects and initiatives.

Major accomplishments for the month include those accomplishments that support FSA's Integration Team and related Integration Partner transition activities. Integration Partner worked with FSA to develop and submit the Transition and Integration Plan deliverables.

- The Transition Plan details the approach for the transfer of Integration Partner knowledge and artifacts to FSA and the new Integration Leadership Support Contractor (ILSC). In addition, the plan will document the means of communication between the three parties during the transition period and the processes for issue resolution and progress reporting.
- The Integration Plan details an approach for the management and delivery of FSA's Integration Partner scope of services. The plan will highlight roles and responsibilities of the participating Integration organizations (FSA's Integration Team, Business and Technology Integration Group and the ILSC), describe the relationship(s) between the Integration Partner and working groups within FSA, and detail processes and steps required for the successful delivery of FSA's Integration efforts. In addition, the plan will document the proposed means of communication between the FSA and the ILSC and the processes for issue resolution and progress reporting.

There are no new enterprise integration gaps to report for the month of April.

Overall Value Delivered

Integration Progress

The following synopses outline progress towards major integration initiatives within the Integration Partner program, including Application & Delivery, Enterprise Data Strategy and Integrated Partner Management (IPM).

Application & Delivery

- Common Origination & Disbursement (COD) will continue to build upon the existing COD solution that provides FSA with a core, single integrated solution to manage aid originations and disbursements.
- Release 3.1 is currently scheduled for a July 2004 implementation; development was completed and testing efforts are underway. Requirements gathering for Release 4.0 (2005-2006 annual cycle) concluded at the end of April.

Enterprise Data Strategy

- The Enterprise Data Strategy Phase II task order is providing further analysis on the following areas:
 - FFEL / student data enrollment data reporting options
 - Website and portals consolidation options
 - Shared services implementation options
 - Impact of CSB procurement outcome
 - Financial transaction processing options
 - Enterprise analytics support architecture options

The end result of this task order will be a more detailed overall enterprise-wide data framework that integrates the components listed above, as well as a functioning XML management tool and support of an active data quality management process for FSA.

- Continued to conduct working sessions with FSA related to Data Framework, XML and Technical Strategies efforts.
- Supported FSA with the Data Strategy briefing to the Business and Technology Integration Group.
- Continued to make progress on the CSB Impact Analysis, FFEL/Student Enrollment Options, Web Portals/Shared Services and CDA Operating Guidelines deliverables.
- Submitted the Data Strategy Target Vision CSB Impact Analysis to FSA on Friday, April 30.

Integrated Partner Management

- The eZ-Audit team is currently focused on testing activities related to Release 2.0, which is anticipated to be released into production at the end of May. This release will support upcoming audits, fixes to the PEPS interface, school group fixes and other enhancements to the current eZ-Audit solution.
- The Identity and Access Management Tools Analysis task order will seek to understand how available Identity and Access Management technologies and tools can help achieve FSA business objectives. The task order will enable FSA to explore vendor products and their suitability for addressing FSA requirements.
- During the month of April, the Identity and Access Management team worked with the prototype vendors, the ITA team and the VDC to prepare for the pilot efforts, to include training sessions, environment setup and software installation.

The Integration Partner Bi-Weekly Status Reports provide detailed project-level status and a Program Scorecard that reflects project variances from the previous reporting month that focuses on the Task Order, Scope, Schedule, Cost, Quality and Overall variances. Most projects are on schedule and there are no significant issues with any of the projects. The Enterprise Data Strategy task order must continue to be monitored carefully to ensure there is no schedule slip as a result of the delayed award. In addition, FSA needs to ensure that the appropriate decision makers are identified and continuously involved in the Data Strategy deliverable process to ensure that consensus is reached at the required decision points. Refer to the attached March Bi-Weekly Status Reports, Bi-Weekly Status Report 4-15-04.pdf and Bi-Weekly Status Report 4-30-04.pdf, for the Program Scorecard.

Participation in FSA Business Integration & Technology Group

The Integration Partner provides business, technical and integration support to FSA's Business and Technology Integration Group. Integration Partner provides this group with the following:

- Vision analysis, facilitation and establishment,
- Coordination and alignment of the Integration Partner program with overall program vision,
- Agenda management and meeting coordination,
- Management of the enterprise sequencing plans, and
- Facilitation of major integration dependencies, risks and issues.

During the month of April, Integration Partner and FSA worked together to identify and develop key transition activities and deliverables necessary to transition the Integration Partner integration tasks and enterprise FSA knowledge to the new Integration and Leadership Support Contractor (ILSC). In addition, Integration Partner identified key requirements and needs that will be essential for FSA's success as they continue to shape the new FSA Integration team and layout responsibilities of the new ILSC.

Accenture participated in the first two BTIG meetings held in the month of April, which were focused on the following topics:

- BTIG Roles and Responsibilities
- ILSC Procurement Update
- Integration Planning
- Data Strategy
- Security Architecture and Access Management

The remaining meetings were focused on topics designated for FSA employees only. FSA employees and the new ILSC contractor will continue to meet during the month of May; Integration Partner will be available as needed.

Enterprise Risk Management

FSA's BTIG continues to identify integration risks among the key integration initiatives. The enterprise integration risks continue to be reviewed and updated; the most recent risks and associated mitigation plans are still being validated among the business owners. Integration risks will continue to be identified, monitored and escalated to Management Council as needed.

Integration Partner project-level risks can be found in the Bi-Weekly Status Reports for the month of April. Refer to the attached March Bi-Weekly Status Reports, Bi-Weekly Status Report 04-15-04.pdf and Bi-Weekly Status Report 04-30-04.pdf.

Enterprise Sequencing Plan

Sequencing plans for key integration initiatives must be managed at the program level. Integration Partner maintains the program schedule, the Integrated Master Schedule, which tracks Integration

Partner task order start and end dates, major milestones and future projects. Refer to the attached document, Mod Integrated Master Schedule_043004.pdf, for the current Integrated Master Schedule.

Integration Partner also maintains FSA's Integrated FSA Sequencing Plan views, which help to inform planning of investment initiatives by providing a consolidated view of constraints and an integrated view of timelines and dependencies across major integration initiatives. Integration Partner did not make any updates to the Enterprise Sequencing Plan during the month of April.

Enterprise Gaps

There are no new enterprise gaps to report that may have an effect on FSA's Integration program.

Integration Partner Internal Integration

Integration Partner ensures that key integration projects and initiatives are integrated throughout the program by providing a formal venue for integration leads to meet and share knowledge as it relates to project status, impacts, dependencies and deliverables.

Transition Activities

During the month of April, Integration Partner worked with it's subject matter experts and FSA to develop and submit the following Transition and Integration deliverables:

- Transition Plan
- Transition Progress Report Template
- Transition Workplan
- Transition Briefings
 - COD
 - CPS/FAFSA/PIN
 - Data Marts
 - Data Strategy
 - EAI
 - eCB
 - eZ-Audit
 - IPM
 - ITA
 - NSLDS
 - Organization and Integration Overview
 - Portals
 - SAIG
 - Security Architecture
- Integration Plan
- Integration Roles & Responsibilities

Refer to the attached April Transition Progress Reports for weekly Transition activities and progress.

Finally, it was announced at the end of April that Grant Thornton was awarded the new ILSC contract. Integration Partner will work with both FSA and Grant Thornton to transition Integration tasks and enterprise FSA knowledge during the month of May.

Integration Efforts Planned for May 2004

The Integration Partner will focus on further developing the following integration areas: Application & Delivery, Data Strategy and Integrated Partner Management.

Application & Delivery

- COD will continue to move forward with the testing activities related to Release 3.1. Release 4.0 requirements sessions will wrap-up and requirements definition efforts will continue.

Enterprise Data Strategy

- Continue progress on the Data Quality, FFEL/Student Enrollment Options, Web Portals/Shared Services and CDA Operating Guidelines efforts.
- Deliver the Data Strategy Target Vision FFEL and Student Enrollment Data Flow Options Analysis.

Integrated Partner Management

- eZ-Audit will continue to move forward with Release 2.0 activities; the release is scheduled to be implemented into production on May 23.
- The Identity and Access Management team will continue to move forward with the Identity and Access Management prototype integration efforts.

Integration & Transition Support

- Integration Partner will continue to support FSA's Integration team as needed, to include enterprise sequencing plan management, risk management, and support of the BTIG.
- Integration Partner will work with both FSA and Grant Thornton to complete the transition of Integration tasks and enterprise FSA knowledge.